



ARIZONA CROPS

September 2003

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UNITED STATES COTTON PRODUCTION DOWN 2 PERCENT FROM 2002

All cotton production is forecast at 16.9 million 480-pound bales, down 1 percent from last month and 2 percent below last year's production. Yield is expected to average 667 pounds per acre, the same as last month. The lower production, compared to last month, is due primarily to reduced harvested area of 110,000 acres based on administrative data. The September harvested area is expected to total 12.2 million acres. The yield decrease in Texas, due to poor growing conditions in the High Plains area, is partially offset by yield increases in the Delta States and California.

Upland cotton harvested acreage, at 12.0 million acres, is down 1 percent from August and 1 percent less than 2002. Based on administrative information, Arkansas, Louisiana, North Carolina, and South Carolina will have decreased harvested area compared to a month ago. California and Arkansas increased their harvested acreage from the previous month. American-Pima harvested acreage, at 168,400 acres, is down 10,000 acres from last month and down 31 percent from a year ago.

In the Southeastern States, the maturity of the cotton crop was up to three weeks behind normal. The crop was in mostly good to excellent condition early in the month despite the wet conditions. Growers have some boll rot concerns due to the lack of sufficiently dry weather. By month's end, the crop condition had declined into mostly fair condition, but hot and humid weather allowed the crop to progress rapidly. Some stress occurred on late planted fields due to shallow root development.

The cotton crop in the Delta States matured rapidly due to the extreme heat and humidity. However, the crop was up to three weeks behind normal but catching up. In some areas, hail damage and increased insect pressure were evident. Timely showers arrived, but hampered insect control measures. By the end of August, beneficial rain fell across

the region, delaying what limited harvesting had been planned. Data from objective yield measurements in Mississippi show the highest number of bolls in any of the previous four years, but Arkansas and Louisiana boll counts are near average.

Cotton producers in the High Plains of Texas were faced with extreme heat and persistent dry conditions early in August. Soil moisture levels were critically short. Rain that occurred by the end of the month was too late. Irrigated fields north of Lubbock were up to three weeks behind in maturity. Two tropical storms during August brought excessive moisture to central and southern Texas cotton fields, delaying some harvest activities. Data from objective yield samples show Texas boll counts are down from last year but near the average of the last 4 years.

California upland cotton producers were using all means available to hasten maturity of the later than normal crop. Excellent weather throughout the month helped their efforts. Whitefly populations have increased recently. Harvest was underway in the Desert Southwest. Objective yield survey data indicate California's boll counts are the highest of the previous four years.

American-Pima production is forecast at 430,500 bales, down 4 percent from August and down 37 percent from 2002. The decrease from last month is due to reduced harvested acres in California. The U.S. yield is forecast at 1,227 pounds per harvested acre, up 15 pounds from the August forecast. If realized, this would be 115 pounds below the record high yield established in 2002.

Ginnings totaled 566,650 running bales prior to September 1, compared with 538,450 running bales ginned prior to the same date last year and 608,650 running bales in 2001.

COTTON: AREA HARVESTED, YIELD, AND PRODUCTION

Type and State	Area Harvested		Yield per acre			Production 1/	
	2002	2003	2002	2003		2002	2003
				August 1	Forecasted September 1		
	1,000 Acres			Pounds		1,000 Bales 2/	
<u>Upland</u>							
AL	540.0	510.0	507	652	706	570.0	750.0
AZ	213.0	208.0	1,381	1,315	1,315	613.0	570.0
AR	920.0	925.0	871	787	804	1,669.0	1,550.0
CA	477.0	555.0	1,469	1,277	1,297	1,460.0	1,500.0
GA	1,360.0	1,290.0	557	744	733	1,578.0	1,970.0
LA	495.0	520.0	717	667	738	739.0	800.0
MS	1,150.0	1,100.0	808	807	851	1,935.0	1,950.0
MO	368.0	390.0	796	726	689	610.0	560.0
NM	50.0	42.0	816	857	857	85.0	75.0
NC	920.0	770.0	421	630	623	806.0	1,000.0
OK	180.0	170.0	557	452	452	209.0	160.0
SC	200.0	217.0	314	725	719	131.0	325.0
TN	530.0	535.0	741	664	709	818.0	790.0
TX	4,500.0	4,500.0	538	469	437	5,040.0	4,100.0
VA	98.0	85.0	465	717	734	95.0	130.0
Other States 3/	183.0	207.0	452	629	645	172.3	278.0
US	12,184.0	12,024.0	651	659	659	16,530.3	16,508.0
<u>Amer-Pima</u>							
AZ	8.2	3.9	1,013	1,169	1,169	17.3	9.5
CA	209.0	139.0	1,386	1,256	1,278	603.3	370.0
NM	7.1	6.0	1,041	880	880	15.4	11.0
TX	18.3	19.5	1,110	985	985	42.3	40.0
US	242.6	168.4	1,342	1,212	1,227	678.3	430.5

1/ Production ginned and to be ginned.

2/ 480-Lb. Net weight bales.

3/ Other States include FL and KS. Individual State level estimates will be published in the "Crop Production 2003 Summary."

AREA HARVESTED, YIELD, AND PRODUCTION, ARIZONA AND UNITED STATES

CROP	UNIT	ARIZONA 1/			UNITED STATES		
		2002	Forecasted September 1, 2003	2003 as % of 2002	2002	Forecasted September 1, 2003	2003 as % of 2002
CORN 2/							
Harvested	Thou acres				69,313	71,815	104
Yield per acre	Pounds				7,280	7,756	
Production	Thou tons				252,214	278,444	110
SORGHUM 3/							
Harvested	Thou acres				7,299	8,041	110
Yield per acre	Pounds				2,839	2,856	
Production	Thou tons				10,353	11,484	111

1/ Arizona forecast not available, combined with other states.

2/ Other States include AZ, FL, ID, MT, OR, UT, WV, and WY. Individual State level estimates will be published in the "Crop Production 2003 Summary."

3/ Other States include AL, AZ, CA, DE, GA, KY, MD, MS, NC, PA, SC, TN, and VA. Individual State level estimates will be published in the "Crop Production 2003 Summary."

ALL POTATOES 2002

Final production of potatoes from all four seasons in 2002 totaled 460 million cwt, up 5 percent from a year earlier, but 10 percent below 2000. Area harvested is estimated at 1.27 million acres, up 4 percent from 2001, but 6 percent below 2000. The yield, averaging 362 cwt per acre, increased 4 cwt from a year earlier, but is 19 cwt lower than 2000. In 2002, winter and spring production rose 2 percent and 7 percent, respectively, from 2001. Summer production in 2002 fell 1 percent, while fall potatoes increased 5 percent from the previous year.

SPRING POTATOES: AREA HARVESTED, YIELD, AND PRODUCTION 1/

STATE	Area harvested		Yield		Production	
	2002	2003	2002	2003	2002	2003
	1,000 acres		Cwt		1,000 cwt	
AZ	7.8	7.6	270	275	2,106	2,090
CA	19.0	18.5	405	410	7,695	7,585
FL -	26.3	27.3	300	250	7,883	6,825
Hastings	19.0	19.0	315	250	5,985	4,750
Other	7.3	8.3	260	250	1,898	2,075
NC	21.0	17.0	170	165	3,570	2,805
TX	12.0	12.5	170	240	2,040	3,000
TOTAL	86.1	82.9	271	269	23,294	22,305

1/ Estimates for current year carried forward from earlier forecast.

SPRING ONIONS

The end-of-season spring onion production estimate, at 9.58 million cwt, is down 1 percent from last year. Acres harvested, at 31,500, are down 8 percent from a year ago, while yield, at 304 cwt per acre, is up 20 cwt per acre. The value of the spring crop is estimated at 288 million dollars, 49 percent more than last year. Arizona growers report good quality and yields due to warm weather during the growing season. The California spring onion crop progressed well throughout most of the State, but cool spring weather slowed growth in some areas. Crop condition ranged from very good to poor. Harvest went well with no problems reported. There were a few reports of heat damage and root rot lowering yields. In Georgia, the quality of the spring onion crop is rated as fair to good. A few fields had to be abandoned due to disease late in the season that developed from wet conditions. Texas had storms in the lower Rio Grande Valley in early April, but damage was not as great as originally anticipated.

SPRING ONIONS: AREA PLANTED AND HARVESTED, YIELD, PRODUCTION, AND VALUE

STATE	Area				Yield per acre		Production		Value			
	Planted		Harvested		2002	2003	2002	2003	Per cwt		Total	
	2002	2003	2002	2003					2002	2003	2002	2003
	Acres				Cwt		1,000 cwt		Dollars		1,000 dollars	
AZ 1/	1,600	1,500	1,500	1,500	460	500	690	750	8.35	9.90	5,762	7,425
CA	6,400	6,700	6,200	6,500	460	480	2,852	3,120	14.20	22.90	40,498	71,448
GA	14,700	14,000	11,500	12,500	125	175	1,438	2,188	32.20	34.30	46,304	75,048
TX	16,200	13,000	15,000	11,000	315	320	4,725	3,520	21.40	38.10	101,115	134,112
TOTAL	38,900	35,200	34,200	31,500	284	304	9,705	9,578	20.00	30.10	193,679	288,033

1/ Includes a small amount of processing.

RELEASE DATES FOR UPCOMING NATIONAL REPORTS

PUBLISHED MONTHLY

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AUGUST FARM PRICES RECEIVED INDEX UP FROM LAST MONTH

The preliminary All Farm Products Index of Prices Received by Farmers in August is 108, based on 1990-92=100, up 3 points (2.9 percent) from the July Index. Since last month both the All Crops Index and the Livestock and Products Index show increases. Higher prices for wheat, dairy, cattle, and lettuce more than offset lower prices for grapes, cantaloup, soybeans, and hogs. The seasonal change in the mix of commodities farmers sell, based on the past 3-year average, also affects the overall index. Increased average marketings of tobacco, cattle, grapes, and sweet corn more than offset decreased marketings of wheat, hay, dairy, and broilers. This preliminary All Farm Products Index is up 8 points (8.0 percent) from August, 2002. Higher prices for cattle, broilers, hogs, and tomatoes more than offset lower prices for corn, wheat, hay, and turkeys.

The Food Commodities Index also increased 5 points (4.8 percent) above last month to 109, and is 12 points (12.4 percent) above August last year.

PRICES PAID INDEX UNCHANGED

The August Index of Prices Paid for Commodities and Services, Interest, Taxes, and Farm Wage Rates (PPITW) is 127 percent of the 1990-92 average. The index is unchanged from July but 3 points (2.4 percent) above August 2002. Lower prices in August for feeder pigs, hay and forages, nitrogen fertilizers, and LP gas were offset by higher prices for feeder cattle, diesel fuel, gasoline, and feed supplements.

PRICES RECEIVED BY FARMERS: ARIZONA AND U.S., AUGUST 2002 AND 2003 AND JULY 2003

COMMODITY	UNIT	ARIZONA			UNITED STATES		
		August 2002 Entire Mo.	July 2003 Entire Mo.	August 2003 Mid-Mo.	August 2002 Entire Mo.	July 2003 Entire Mo.	August 2003 Mid-Mo.
Upland Cotton 1/	¢ Lb	2/	2/	2/	33.0	46.1	44.0
All Wheat 3/	\$ Cwt	---	---	---	3.63	2.95	3.44
Durum Wheat 3/	\$ Cwt	---	---	---	3.55	3.85	3.74
Winter Wheat 3/	\$ Cwt	---	---	---	3.63	2.89	3.39
All Hay Baled 4/	\$ Ton	95.00	90.00	87.00	93.70	89.00	85.30
Alfalfa Hay Baled 4/	\$ Ton	95.00	90.00	88.00	101.00	92.70	91.00
Other Hay Baled 4/	\$ Ton	89.00	85.00	82.00	71.30	77.80	69.10
Cows 5/	\$ Cwt	35.70	43.50	46.00	36.40	44.90	44.80
Steers and Heifers	\$ Cwt	69.00	83.60	83.80	67.10	78.80	81.70
Beef Cattle 6/	\$ Cwt	68.70	83.20	83.40	64.30	75.80	78.50
Calves	\$ Cwt	101.00	95.40	98.20	94.40	103.00	105.00
All Milk 7/	\$ Cwt	11.20	11.60	12.70	11.30	12.00	13.00

1/ Includes both spot and contract sales.

2/ Price not published to avoid disclosure of individual operations.

3/ Not available for Arizona.

4/ Mid-month.

5/ Beef cows and cull dairy cows sold for slaughter.

6/ "Cows" and "steers and heifers" combined.

7/ Preliminary; before deductions for hauling. Includes quality, quantity and other premiums. Excludes hauling subsidies.

U.S. PRICE INDEX SUMMARY TABLE

INDEX 1990-92 = 100	2002		2003	
	July	August	July	August
Prices Received	99	100	105	108
Prices Paid	123	124	127	127
Ratio 1/	80	81	83	85

1/ Ratio of index of prices received by farmers to index of prices paid.